

Fall 2009 NRO Directions and Fees

Camp St. Michael in Pittsfield MA

by Steve Millett, CCG

The NRO is at “1074 Cascade St., Pittsfield MA 01201”. If you search for this on the internet, you will get a location that is close, but likely not exact. Large and reflective NRO signs will be posted at intersections near the camp. If you get lost or need help with directions please call:

Steve Millett: (203) 640-6703

Mike Telladira: (413) 464-3255

Please note that the camp entrance is about 1000 ft east of the entrance to Pittsfield State Forrest, and if you follow signs for the State Forest you will be very close to the camp. Also note that Cascade Street is a horseshoe shaped road. Camp St. Michael is on the northern section of the road.

The camp opens for us on Friday at 2 pm. Everyone attending will be asked to sign a waiver. Look for a link to the waiver on the Fall 2009 NRO website.



Directions from the Mass. Pike Westbound (coming from Hartford, or Boston)

- 1) Get off Mass Pike **EXIT #1** (West Stockbridge, Rt 41)
- 2) At end of ramp, take **RIGHT** onto Rt 41. *Follow heading North for 8.5 miles.*
- 3) Turn **RIGHT** onto **W HOUSATONIC ST/US-20**. *Follow for 1.6 miles.*
- 4) Turn **LEFT** onto **HUNGERFORD ST**. *Follow for 0.2 miles.*
- 5) Turn **SLIGHT LEFT** onto **FORT HILL AVE**. *Follow for 1.0 miles.*
- 6) Turn **LEFT** onto **WEST ST**. *Follow for 0.3 miles.*
- 7) Turn **RIGHT** onto **CHURCHILL ST**. *Follow for 1.7 miles.*
- 8) Pass first **CASCADE ST** on left hand side, **do not turn yet (Cascade street is a large loop)**
- 9) Turn **LEFT** onto the second entrance to **CASCADE ST**. *Follow for 0.3 miles.*
- 10) Camp St. Michael on left hand side of road (Large Camp sign and Reflective NRO signs easily visible from road).

Directions from the Mass. Pike Eastbound (coming from Albany, or NYC)

- 1) Get off NY State Thruway (Interstate 90) **EXIT #B3** (NY 22 towards New Lebanon)

- 2) Turn **LEFT** onto **NY-22**. *Follow for 3.0 miles.*
- 3) Turn **RIGHT** onto **NY-295** (Crossing into **MA**). *Follow for 2.5 miles.*
- 4) Turn **LEFT** onto **STATE RD/MA-41**. *Follow for 3.6 miles.*
- 5) Turn **RIGHT** onto **W HOUSATONIC ST/US-20**. *Follow for 1.6 miles.*
- 6) Turn **LEFT** onto **HUNGERFORD ST**. *Follow for 0.2 miles.*
- 7) Turn **SLIGHT LEFT** onto **FORT HILL AVE**. *Follow for 1.0 miles.*
- 8) Turn **LEFT** onto **WEST ST**. *Follow for 0.3 miles.*
- 9) Turn **RIGHT** onto **CHURCHILL ST**. *Follow for 1.7 miles.*
- 10) Pass first **CASCADE ST on left hand side, do not turn yet (Cascade street is a large loop)**
- 11) Turn **LEFT** onto the second entrance to **CASCADE ST**. *Follow for 0.3 miles.*
- 12) Camp St. Michael on left hand side or road (Large Camp sign and **NRO signs easily visible from road**).

Directions from the North (Beginning on Rt 7 in Williamstown, MA)

- 1) From Williamstown, Follow **Rt 7 South**. *Follow for 17.7 miles.*
- 2) Turn **RIGHT** onto **HANCOCK RD**. *Follow for 1.5 miles.*
- 3) Turn **LEFT** onto **PECKS RD**. *Follow for 0.4 miles.*
- 4) Turn **RIGHT** onto **DAN CASEY MEMORIAL DR**. *Follow for 0.5 miles.*
- 5) Turn **LEFT** onto **CHURCHILL ST**. *Follow for 0.6 miles.*
- 6) Turn **RIGHT** onto **CASCADE ST**. *Follow for 0.1 miles.*
- 7) Camp St. Michael on left hand side or road (Large Camp sign and **NRO signs easily visible from road**).

Entering Camp Ground and Parking

We will do our best to have someone positioned to help guiding parking during registration on Friday and Saturday. If no one is present please follow the instructions below:

- 1) The entrance gate will be open for entire weekend: pull into driveway and across small bridge.
- 2) There are 3 areas for parking:
 - a. **Gravel parking area:** Just inside the entrance there are about 10 or so spots for cars.
 - b. **Grass parking to left of main building:** Pull into driveway and follow to left side of building. Glow sticks, and flagging tape will mark off the parking area. This is the recommended area for RVs and Campers. Please do your best to make most efficient use of the space available. **Do not drive or park on the basketball course.**
 - c. **Grass parking to right of main building:** Pull into driveway and follow to right side of building. Glow sticks, and flagging tape will mark off the parking area. Please do not drive beyond the marked off area.

Tent Sites and Setup

Tents may be set up anywhere within the camp property (other than in parking areas). I advise seeking high ground in the likely event that it rains. Cars are not allowed beyond the parking area, so tents and other stuff will have to be carried a few feet to a few hundred feet, depending on where you camp.

The best sites for scenic and shady camping and privacy are on the far side of the pond, and back in the wood near the cave insurgences. The grass field is closest to the meeting and food areas. I recommend walking the entire campground before choosing a spot.

Fees

The cost schedule for this NRO is as follows:

Campground Fees:

Adult Camping (ages 15 and older): \$5 per adult per night (\$10 for entire NRO weekend)

Child Camping (ages 6-14) \$3 per child per night (\$6 for entire NRO weekend)

Adult / Child day pass \$3 per person per day (valid only if not camping overnight)

NRO Fees:

Adult Basic Fee: \$4

Youth Basic Fee: \$3

Other:

Guidebook: \$2

Pint Glass: \$10 (Fundraiser for Merlin's Cave Purchase)

Meals:

Saturday Breakfast will be: \$5

Eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, a juice, coffee and tea.

Saturday Dinner will be: \$7

Hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken patties, and veggie burgers

with beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, sour krout

fixings will be; lettuce, tomato, onion, bacon, cheese, mayo, ketchup, relish, buns

coffee, bug juice, soda (cans)

Sunday Breakfast will be: \$5

Eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, a juice, coffee and tea.

Camp Fires

Camp fires are allowed in the fire pit between the registration building and the pond, and in the fire pit located back in the forest. We plan to stock both spots with wood for the weekend. You also may burn any dead wood found on the property. **Do not cut anything alive down.**

Bathrooms

Men's and Women's bathrooms are located on either side of the main building. Sinks and toilets with running water are available for our use. Note, we are responsible for cleaning these facilities. **Showers are not available.** Use the pond or the hose located at the gear decontamination area.

Caves Open for NRO

(See Registration for Details, some are fully open, some are lead trips only)

- 1) Masshole: Lead Trips only*
- 2) Jug End Karst (Bat's Den, Crystal Pool)
- 3) Coonhound Karst (Shepard's Cave) Lead Trips Only*
- 4) Devil's Den*
- 5) Great Radium Springs*
- 6) Bakers Quarry (and area)
- 7) Coon Hollow (and area)
- 8) Convention Cave: Lead trips only*
- 9) McMaster's Cave
- 10) Skeleton Cave: Lead Trips only
- 11) Pettibone Cave: Lead Trips only*
- 12) Bentley's Cave
- 13) Snow Hole and Williams Caves

*Open only for this NRO weekend

END